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NFAC #0903/79

16 February 1979

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Chief/LSD/OL

FROM : Associate Coordinator for Academic Relations, NFAC

SUBJECT : University Presidents Visit

This is to formally thank you and your staff for your cooperation during the 15 February 1979 University Presidents Visit. It was especially appreciated in light of the large number of drivers that were needed, the bad weather and the rather odd scheduling. The University Presidents all commented on your drivers' efficiency, courtesy and helpfulness.

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CIA recruiters draw protest

CORVALLIS — Recruiters from the U.S. Central Intelligence.
Agency will continue to operate on the Oregon State University
campus despite petitions protesting their presence, university
president Robert MacVicar said this week.

Presented with a request to ban the CIA recruiters on campus signed by about 200 students and non-students, MacVicar said he respected their "concern" about some CIA activities, but managing the CIA is the responsibility of Congress not the university.

MacVicar urged students who presented the petition to talk-to-their federal representatives about CIA activities.

OSU won't ban CIA recruiters, MacVicar says

By George Wisner Of The Gazette-Times

Despite opposition from some students, Oregon State University President Robert MacVicar refused Tuesday to prohibit the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency from recruiting for employees on campus.

"We are not responsible for management of the CIA; Congress is," MacVicar told seven representatives of a campus group called the Liberation Support Coalition.

The seven had given him petitions signed by about 200 students and non-students who want a ban on "all future CIA recruitment and activities on the Oregon State University campus." The coalition says it supports national liberation struggles throughout the world.

The petitions were circulated around the campus on two occasions, coalition members said, primarily during and after the CIA recruiting visit to OSU on Feb. 7. The coalition, which has approximately 40 members, also demonstrated against the CIA in front of the campus Memorial Union on Feb. 7.

In presenting the petitions to MacVlcar, William Palmer, a graduate student, said:

"We think it is inappropriate for the CIA to be recruiting on campus. It seems they get enough people volunteering without recruiting. We think it would be best to keep that kind of politics off campus."

MacVicar responded by saying, "As far as I'm concerned . . . the CIA is a legitimate government organization.

"I respect your feelings and concern about some of the activities of that organization. But I am not about to deny access to university facilities for student appraisal of (job) opportunities in that agency. I have no basis for denying it the Robert MacVicar

use of the facilities."

MacVicar said he is "opposed to lawbreaking in principle and in practice" and if any organization was illegal or prohibited by law, then he would have a basis for refusing to allow it on campus.

Coalition members then suggested that by not banning the CIA from using campus facilities, MacVicar supports what the coalition believes to be subversive activities of the CIA.

"How can you support an agency that sits consistently outside the laws?" asked Na Jia Adolf, a sophomore, who suggested that MacVlcar could provide "moral leadership" by banning the CIA.

MacVicar wagged a finger, cautioning:
"You're making an assumption. I don't
believe that allowing an agency to come
to campus means that we support their
practices."

He added, "I don't believe in smoking, but I'm not about to say that the American Tobacco Co. can't recruit on campus."

MacVicar told the group that its members acted correctly in raising the issue by petition, but said: "You have got the wrong target. I don't run the CIA."

MacVicar told the students he would reply to their petition in writing, and urged them to talk to federal government "leaders" about CIA activities with which they disagree.